



The *MESSENGER*

September 2022

Inside this issue ...

Birthdays and Anniversaries .	6
Deacons	4
From the Pastor's Desk.....	2
Homecoming.....	3
Mission in <i>Motion</i>	5
September Calendar.....	7

Staff

the Rev. Jeffrey Lang

Amy

Director of Music and Organist

Kate

Choir Director and Vocalist

Paisley

Videographer

Maya

Vocalist

Deborah

Administrative Assistant

the Rev. Dr. Dawn Vagle

Min. of Congregational Care

Logan

Vocalist



The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be celebrated Sunday, September 4. *All* are welcome at the table.



returns Sunday, September 11.



Items for the **October** edition of this newsletter are accepted in the church office through **9:00AM, Monday, September 26, 2022.**

Early submissions are always joyfully accepted!

Submitted information will be edited for clarity, accuracy, and length.



Worship Committee

Our fall season is nearly here. We will celebrate the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper on September 4. Worship services on Sundays will return to 10:30AM beginning September 11. The choir will return to share their musical gifts with us each Sunday beginning September 11.

Remember to mark your calendar and RSVP for our church's Homecoming Sunday on October 9. We will have a wonderful opportunity to visit with old friends as well as see some new faces. Not to mention a delicious lunch, free of charge. We're looking forward to seeing you there!



From the Minister's Desk

The late Frederick Buechner in *Beyond Words: Daily Readings in the ABCs of Faith* observed: *"Fire has no shape or substance. You can't taste it or smell it or hear it. You can't touch it except at great risk. You can't weigh it or measure it or examine it with instruments. You can never grasp it in its fullness because it never stands still. Yet there is no mistaking its extraordinary power."*

The fire that sweeps through miles of forest like a terrible wind and the flickering candle that lights the old woman's way to bed. The burning logs on the subzero night that save the pipes from freezing and give summer dreams to the tabby dozing on the hearth. Even from millions of miles away, the conflagration of the sun that can turn green earth into desert and strike blind any who fail to lower their gaze before it. The power of fire to devastate and consume utterly. The power of fire to purify by leaving nothing in its wake but a scattering of ash that the wind blows away like mist.

A pillar of fire was what led the children of Israel through the wilderness, and it was from a burning bush that God first spoke to Moses. There were tongues of fire leaping up from the disciples on the day of Pentecost. In John's apocalypse it is a lake of fire that the damned are cast into, and Faithful and True himself, he says, has eyes of fire as he sits astride his white horse.

In the pages of Scripture, fire is holiness, and perhaps never more hauntingly than in the little charcoal fire that Jesus of Nazareth, newly risen from the dead, kindles for cooking his friends' breakfast on the beach at daybreak."

The scriptures, communicating as they do religious truth, utilize metaphor and symbol, analogy and simile. Religious language is the poetry of the soul expressing verities that cannot be fully captured or enclosed by human language.

A foundational concern of the Bible's Story is that we relate ourselves rightly to God as our creator and redeemer. Worship is the proper response to the One who gifts us physical life and provides for us, in Jesus Christ, eternal life. God's love frees us from bondage to sin and its consequent misery. God's grace frees us to become who God would have us be. Reverence, awe, and worship mark out our relationship with the God who loves and saves us.

Hebrews 12:28,29 enjoins us: *"Therefore let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, and thus let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe, for our God is a consuming fire."* (English Standard Version)

God is love (1 John 4:8) and God is a consuming fire. God's love for us is such that by it we are remade, reformed, purified, and refined. God's love transforms who we are and who we might become. (1 Cor. 3:12-15)



Homecoming

Homecoming provides an opportunity for members and friends of the congregation, including some former members and pastors, to intentionally reconnect following the disruptions of Covid.

The October 9 worship service and lunch will be a time to formally highlight our beautifully renovated sanctuary, and celebrate our life together as a congregation past, present, and future.

Worship begins at 10:30AM

*Lunch buffet** begins at 12:00 noon in the Church House

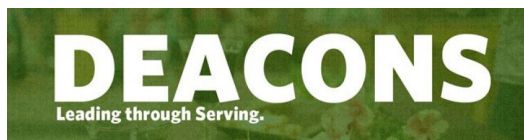
Menu

roasted pig
BBQ sauce
bakery fresh round buns
side dishes
cold beverages
assorted cheesecake and dessert bars

Former Pastors

Bruce A
Thom S

*no charge



The Deacons offer prayer, companionship, rides, or meals, but don't always know where care is needed. If you know of a need (your own or another's), call the church office or any of our Deacons: Susan A, Marianna B, Jane J and Susy S serving as Moderator.



Diane and Mike B
William B
Levi C
Thomas M
Jackie and Dick O
Dawn V



With Deepest Sympathy

We extend our sympathies to Joe and Diane S following the death of Joe's mother, Carolyn S, who died on June 6, at the age of 101 years. Her memorial service was held in Lexington, KY, June 26.

We again extend our sympathies to Joe and Diane S following the death of Joe's sister, Sara S H, who died peacefully in her sleep on July 26.

Please keep Carolyn's and Sara's families in your prayers as they transition to life without these women.

We extend our sympathies to the family of Fern E, who died May 27. Fern's memorial service and reception were held at the church on June 14. Please keep her family in your prayers as they transition to life without her.

A note to the choir

Choir rehearsals will resume in September. Choir members should watch for sign-out sheets, which will soon be posted in the robe room. Since some of us are still involved in summer travel in September, your input will be very helpful to Amy and Kate. An approximate count of singers who will be present on a given Sunday provides them with appropriate choices of vocal music. Thank you for your consideration!



Mission in *M o t i o n*



Dave C delivered 135 pounds of food and personal care items to Valley Interfaith Community

Resource Center (VICRC) in July and 52 pounds of food, personal care items, and cleaning products in August.

Thank you for your continued and generous support of this mission opportunity.

In July, checks were sent to VICRC (\$500) and to the Village of Glendale (\$350) for purchase of back-to-school supplies.

In August, a check was sent to Matthew 25 Ministries (\$250) for their relief work in Eastern Kentucky.



Nineteen of the twenty-five Operation Christmas Child boxes have been taken.

The remaining six boxes will be in the Narthex for anyone who wishes to fill one. Please find the number on the bottom of the box and write your name beside that number on the sheet near the boxes.

Please return *your* Operation Christmas Child boxes on or before Sunday, October 16.



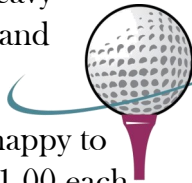
It's almost time for our
25th Annual Golf Outing
in memory of Sylvia and Tom A

Saturday, September 17—Mill Course at Winton Woods—12:00 noon

It's not too late to sponsor a hole or to register* you or your 4-some, but you must *act quickly!*

Non-golfers are invited to enjoy free heavy hors d'oeuvres, beverages, golf awards, and raffle drawings beginning at 5:00PM.

Tom Shevlin or Mike Fasoldt will be happy to sell you a few raffle tickets. They are \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00. You do not need to be present to win. If you are unable to attend the post-outing festivities, be sure to give your completed tickets to Tom or Mike so they are entered in the prize drawings.



All proceeds will be shared equally between Valley Interfaith Community Resource Center, Fischer House, the Andy Caress Melanoma Foundation, and the William Breidenstein Fund.

For more information, please call or email Mike Fasoldt (513.460.0099, mlfasoldt@zoomtown.com) or Tom Shevlin (513.770.8819, trshevlin@gmail.com).



Birthdays and Anniversaries

Westi and Jim B	1
Mary G	2
Nancy G	13
Margie B	16
Joe S	16
Ruth B	17
Carson C	19
Carey C	20
Jaime H	20
Will K	21
Connor C	23



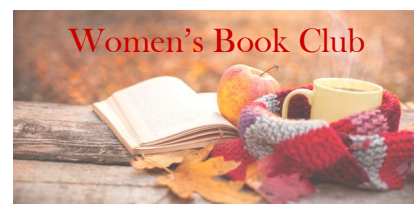
Music Live at Christ Church

is a series of free public concerts, usually on the first Thursday of each month. All concerts last 30-40 minutes.

Donations are gratefully accepted toward selected food banks in the Glendale and greater Cincinnati area.

Our first concert will take place on Thursday, September 8, at 12:05 PM, in the Chapel of the Holy Spirit.

The Matt Tolentino Band will perform ragtime, traditional jazz, and early swing music for your enjoyment.



Women's Book Club Resumes!

Wednesday, September 7

10:00am, church Library

The Paris Library, by Janet Skeslien Charles is based on the true World War II heroic librarians at the American Library in Paris. This is an unforgettable story of romance, friendship, family, and the power of literature to bring us together.

You can pick up a copy of the discussion question from the Narthex.



Wednesday, September 14

All men are invited to lunch and fellowship at Gold Star on Springfield Pike in Springdale.

Fellowship begins when you arrive; lunch begins at 12:30pm.






September

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 10:00AM- Gentle Yoga	2	3
4 10:00AM - Worship	5 Office CLOSED in observance of 	6 3:00PM- Mission committee meeting	7 10:00AM - Women's Book Club	8 10:00AM- Gentle Yoga 6:30PM - Choir Rehearsal	9	10
11 10:30AM - Worship 11:15AM- Annual Meeting 	12 9:00AM- Session reports due	13	14 12:30PM- Men's Lunch @ Skyline 6:00pm- Session mtg	15 10:00AM- Gentle Yoga 6:30PM - Choir Rehearsal	16	17 12:00PM - 25th Annual Golf Outing
18 10:30AM - Worship <i>Food Offering</i>	19 10:30am- Deacon meeting 2:00pm- Squirrely Stitchers	20	21	22 <i>Office Closed</i> 10:00AM- Gentle Yoga 6:30PM - Choir Rehearsal 	23	24
25 10:30AM - Worship	26 9:00AM- October newsletter items due	27	28	29 6:30PM - Choir Rehearsal	30	



First Presbyterian Church of Glendale

155 East Fountain Avenue
Glendale, OH 45246

513-771-6195
glenpres@fuse.net
firstpresbyterianglendale.org

the Reverend Jeffrey Lang

Sunday, June 12, 2022-Sunday, September 4, 2022
worship begins at 10:00AM

Sunday, September 11, 2022-Sunday, June 11, 2023
worship begins at 10:30AM

Church Office Hours

Monday, 9AM-3PM, Tuesday, 9AM-1PM
Wednesday, 9AM-1PM, Thursday, 9AM-3PM
The office is *closed* every Friday

Shared with you in Christian love



Always room in God's kingdom

Jesus told a parable about a man who invited his friends and neighbors to a banquet, but they declined. So he told his servants to go find anyone who



was hungry or lonely or in need. Still there was room. “Go out to the roads and country lanes and compel them to come it,” the host said, “so that my house will be full” (Luke 14:23, NIV).

In *Searching for Sunday*, Rachel Held Evans retells this story and writes: “This is what God’s kingdom is like: a bunch of outcasts and oddballs gathered at a table, not because they are rich or worthy or good, but because they are hungry, because they said *yes*. And there’s always room for more”.

We’re all “outcasts and oddballs” in one way or another! May we know that God warmly invites us to His banquet—for no reason but that we’re hungry.